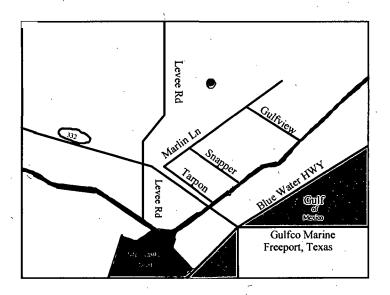
COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PLAN

GULFCO MARINE MAINTENANCE, INC. SUPERFUND SITE FREEPORT, BRAZORIA COUNTY TEXAS

January 2008





U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY REGION 6

THE U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY'S (EPA) SUPERFUND COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT PROGRAM IS COMMITTED TO PROMOTING COMMUNICATION BETWEEN CITIZENS AND THE AGENCY.

ACTIVE PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT IS CRUCIAL TO THE SUCCESS OF ANY PUBLIC PROJECT.

EPA'S COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT ACTIVITIES AT THE GULFCO MARINE MAINTENANCE, INC. SUPERFUND SITE ARE DESIGNED TO

INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE NATURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITE,

INVOLVE THE PUBLIC IN THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS THAT WILL AFFECT THEM,

INVOLVE THE PUBLIC IN THE RESPONSES UNDER CONSIDERATION TO REMEDY THESE ISSUES, AND

INFORM THE PUBLIC OF THE PROGRESS BEING MADE TO IMPLEMENT THE REMEDY.

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Section 1.0 Overview of the Community Involvement Plan

EPA developed this Community Involvement Plan to facilitate two-way communication between the community surrounding Gulfco Marine Maintenance Superfund Site and EPA and to encourage community involvement in site activities. EPA will utilize the community involvement activities outlined in this plan to ensure that residents are continuously informed and provided opportunities to be involved.

This Community Involvement Plan addresses Gulfco Marine Maintenance's relationship to the community and EPA (Section 2.0), provides a background of the community (Section 3.0), presents EPA's community involvement program (Section 4.0), and provides a listing of resources available (Appendices). EPA drew upon several information sources to develop this plan, including community interviews and site files. EPA's Regional Office will oversee the implementation of the community involvement activities outlined in this Plan.

Section 2.0 Capsule Site Description

2.1 Site History

The Gulfco Marine Maintenance Facility operated as a barge cleaning and waste disposal facility from 1971 through 1979, then as a barge cleaning and offshore platform construction facility until 1989, and finally as a barge cleaning and refurbishing facility until 1998. Operations at the facility involved the cleaning, servicing and repair of various types of barges, particularly chemical. Chemical barges were drained and pumped to remove product heels, which then were stored in tanks and sold as product. Each barge was washed with water or a detergent solution. Generated wash waters were stored either in surface impoundments, a floating barge or on-site storage tanks. The barges were allowed to air dry and certified as safe prior to initiating repair work such as welding and sandblasting.

2.2 Site Description/Location

The Gulfco Marine Maintenance, Inc. facility, approximately 40 acres, is located approximately 3 miles northeast of the city of Freeport, Texas, at 906 Marlin Avenue. The coordinates of the site are 28° 58' 00.65" north latitude and 95° 17' 22.76" west longitude (taken from the U.S. Geological Survey, 7.5 Minute Topographic Quadrangle, Freeport Texas). The site lies within the 100-year coastal flood plain along the north bank of the intra-coastal Waterway between Oyster Creek to the east and the Old Brazos River Channel and the Dow Barge Canal to the west.

The southern part of the Gulfco site drains to the south where it enters the intra-coastal Waterway. A wetland area is located north of the site and approximately 500 feet south of the site across the intra-coastal Waterway, and twenty miles of wetland frontage lie within 15 stream miles of the site. The Chicot/Evangline Aquifer system, which is a source of municipal and smaller public water supply systems in the Freeport area, underlies the site.

2.3 Site Inspections and Cleanup Activities

A Site Screening Inspection sampling event was conducted by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in January 2000 and a subsequent Expanded Site Inspection was conducted January 2001, the exact volumes of wastes at the site have yet to be determined. This information will be obtained during the Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study for which a date is to be determined.

Section 3.0 Community Background

3.1 Community Profile

The population of the City of Freeport is approximately 12,800.

Within 1 square mile, the population is approximately 78; 17.9% minority and 23.3% economically stressed.

Within 50 square miles, the population is approximately 3, 392; 33.4% minority and 24.3% economically stressed.

3.2 History of Community Involvement

Interviews of members of the community and a community meeting were held in Freeport, TX on August 22-23, 2003, to inform the community about EPA activities regarding the Gulfco Marine Maintenance site, and to hear the community's concerns.

3.3 Key Community Concerns

Some of the key concerns of the community include, cancer (stomach or colon, lung, liver, bladder and throat and neck cancer), degenerative muscular disease, bronchial, asthma, and chemicals that may have migrated into the intra-coastal and canals in front of their houses that would affect the crabs and fish.

3.4 Response to Community Concerns

Texas Commission Environment Quality (TCEQ), formerly the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (TNRCC), conducted a Site Screening Inspection in January 2000 and an Expanded Site Inspection sampling event in January 2001.

Texas Department of Health completed a Public Health Assessment on April 19, 2004, to look at soil, sediment and water sampling to find out what chemicals are on or near the site, where they are located, what the quantities of chemicals exist, whether or not people could come into contact with those chemicals, and determine if chemicals at the site could cause health problems. The Public Health Assessment concluded there was insufficient data to make a determination regarding the public health impact of the Site.

The EPA signed a Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) on May 23, 2005, and it was issued on June 6, 2005, to the identified PRP's. The order requires the PRP's to conduct a Remedial Investigation and Feasibility Study (RI/FS) at the Gulfco Marine Maintenance Site in Freeport, TX.

A residential development exists approximately 500 feet southwest of the Site on the Intracoastal Waterway with approximately 56 housing units and 61 residents within a one-half mile of the Site. In addition, runoff from part of the Site flows to wetlands that lie north of the Site.

The EPA has determined that the release or threatened release of hazardous substances at the Site presents an imminent and substantial endangerment to the public health or welfare or environment

Current Status:

The EPA and TCEQ are working with the PRPs to perform a remedial investigation to define the nature and extent of contamination at the Site. Following the investigation, a feasibility study will be done to evaluate altrnatives for any necessary remediation. A revised investigation and feasibility study Work plan submitted by the PRPs is currently being reviewed by the EPA, TCEQ and the Environmental Resource Trustees.

Following agency approval of the work plan, fieldwork will begin to sample soil, surface and ground water, sediment and fish tissue at the site.

3.5 Summary of Communication Needs

The small population will require multiple one-on-ones and fact sheets.

Section 4.0 EPA's Community Involvement Program

The overall goal of EPA's community involvement program is to promote two-way communication between citizens and the EPA and to provide opportunities for meaningful and active involvement by the community in the cleanup process. EPA will implement the community involvement activities described below. The following plan is based on the results of the community interviews described earlier; it addresses each issue that was identified as being important to the community.

4.1 The Plan

☐ Issue 1: Community Interviews

Activity 1A: Interviews

- Objective: To provide the community an avenue to share their health and environmental concerns and opinions pertaining to the Site.
- Method: Door-to-Door Interviews and appointments made as a result of a prior notice that EPA would be in their neighborhood.
- Completed: August 22-23, 2003

Activity 2A: Informal Meeting in Community

- Objective: To meet with as many Community members as possible to obtain their thoughts and concerns regarding any potential environmental and health problems connected with the Gulfco site contamination.
- Method: Meeting in a Community member's home.
- Completed: August 23, 2003

Activity 3A: Informal Meeting in Community

• Objective: To meet with Community members in an informal setting to explain the Unilateral Administrative Order (UAO) and what to expect as a result.

- Method: Bridge Harbor Facility, 411 Sailfish Lane, Freeport, TX
- 6:00 PM, October 20, 2005

Issue 2: Keeping the public informed and up to date.

Activity 2A: Designate an EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC).

- Objective: To provide a primary liaison between the community and the EPA, and to ensure prompt, accurate, and consistent responses and information dissemination about the site. In those instances where EPA's CIC may be unable to provide adequate information (such as on technical issues), inquiries will be directed to the appropriate EPA contact.
- Method: EPA will designate an EPA CIC to handle site inquiries and serve as a point of contact for community members. The CIC is appointed by the Region 6 headquarters. Phyllis June Hoey is the EPA CIC assigned to the site. She will work closely with Gary Miller, EPA's Remedial Project Manager for the site.
- Completed: The CIC was designated in January 2004.

Activity2B: Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries.

- Objective: To provide citizens with current, accurate, easy-to-read, easy-to-understand information about Gulfco Marine Maintenance, Inc.
- Method: Fact sheets will be mailed to all parties on the site mailing list. In addition, copies will be available at the information repository and in various cooperating business locations in the community.
- Timing: EPA will prepare and distribute fact sheets as needed.

Activity 2C: Provide a toll-free "800 number" for the community to contact EPA.

- Objective: To enable citizens to get the latest information available when they want it, rather than having to wait for a meeting or a fact sheet, and without incurring any cost.
- Method: EPA will activate the 800 number and publish it periodically in the local papers and in all fact sheets.
- Completed: The line is currently operational (1-800-533-3508).

Activity 2D: Maintain a mailing list for the Site.

- Objective: To facilitate the distribution of site-specific information to everyone who needs or wants to be kept informed about the site.
- Method: EPA will create a mailing list that includes all residences adjacent to the site, in known or suspected paths of migration, or those otherwise affected by the site. EPA will also solicit interested parties via fact sheets, newspaper articles, public meetings, public availabilities, etc.
- Timing: EPA will begin working on this mailing list immediately and will review/revise it periodically to keep it current.

Activity 2E: Establish and maintain Information Repositories.

- Objective: To provide a convenient location where residents can go to read and copy official documents and other pertinent information about the site and EPA activities.
- Method: The repository is a reference collection of site information containing the Administrative Record file, other site-specific information, the Community Involvement Plan, information about the Technical Assistance Grant program, and the general Superfund process. The Community Involvement Coordinator will work with a local contact to establish the local repository. This repository will be accessible to the physically challenged, will have copier facilities, and will be available to residents during normal business hours and at least some evening and/or weekend hours. Additional repositories have also been established, at the EPA Region 6 headquarters in Dallas, Texas and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) in Austin, Texas.
- Completed: EPA established the local repository on September 9, 2002 located at the Freeport Library, 410 Brazosport Blvd., Freeport, TX 77541. EPA adds new documents as they become available.

Activity 2F: Provide Site and Superfund information on the Internet.

- Objective: To provide key resources for searching and listing both general and specific information about Superfund and hazardous waste issues.
- Method: A Site Status Summary for this site can be found at http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/6sf-tx.htm.

Information about EPA and Superfund can be found at:

EPA Headquarters: http://www.epa.gov

EPA Region 6: http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6

EPA Region 6 Superfund Division: http://www.epa.gov/earth1r6/6sf/6sf.htm

The Proposed Plan and the Record of Decision (ROD) for the site will be placed on the internet as they are completed. The Proposed Plan will be prepared by EPA after the Site Investigation is completed and remediation alternatives are evaluated. In the Proposed Plan, EPA notifies the public about he preferred remediation alternative and invites public comments. Following the public comment period, and after considering all public comments received, the EPA selects the site remedy in the Record of Decision (ROD).

• Timing: Site Status Summaries are periodically updated.

Activity 2G: Provide Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) information.

- Objective: To provide resources for community groups to hire technical advisors who can assist them in interpreting technical information about the site.
- Method: EPA will provide information about the TAG program at public meetings and in site fact sheets. EPA will also provide briefing sessions to interested groups if so requested. EPA will provide TAG applications to qualified groups, and will provide assistance to the group in completing the application.

TAG availability notices were published on February 26, 2002 and May 15, 2003.

• Timing: EPA will continue to promote TAGs until one is awarded.

Activity 2H: Establish and maintain the Administrative Record.

- Objective: To provide residents with a paper trail of all documents, resources, etc. used by the Regional Project Manager and Site Team in reaching all decisions about the site and its cleanup.
- Method: EPA will provide a set of the Administrative Record for the site to all repositories; the local Information Repository near the site, and to the repository located at TCEQ in Austin, TX
- Timing: The Administrative Record is opened as soon as site investigation begins and remains open as long as hazardous substances remain on-site above health-based levels.

Issue 3: Provide adequate and meaningful opportunities for community involvement.

Activity 3A: Hold community meetings.

- Objective: To update the community on site developments and address community questions, concerns, ideas and comments.
- Method: Refer to Appendix H for suggested meeting locations. EPA will schedule, prepare for, and attend all announced meetings. EPA will provide at least two weeks' notice of the scheduled meeting. The Regional Project Manager, Community Involvement Coordinator, and other appropriate EPA staff will attend.
- Timing: A public meeting is required during the Proposed Plan comment period (see below). EPA will hold other public meetings as appropriate.

Activity 3B: Encourage formation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG).

- Objective: To provide citizens with a meaningful way to become actively involved, and to provide the Site Team with a viable means of learning citizen concerns and attitudes.
- Method: EPA will encourage the formation of a CAG and provide support as appropriate to facilitate its formation. If formed, EPA will provide administrative support but will not be an active member.
- Timing: EPA will respond to any requests for help to form a CAG. As necessary, EPA will promote CAGs regularly throughout the Superfund process until one is formed. Please call 1-800-533-3508 or the Community Relations Coordinator for more information.

Activity 3C: Make informal visits to community.

- Objective: To help keep community members informed about the site, while providing EPA with feedback about site activities and the community's opinions.
- Method: EPA will establish a presence in the community through informal, often unscheduled visits to talk spontaneously with local residents.
- Timing: Throughout the entire Superfund process.

Activity 3D: Solicit comments during a Public Comment Period.

- Objective: To give community members an opportunity to review and comment on various EPA documents, especially the Proposed Plan. This provides the citizens with meaningful involvement in the process and also provides the Site Team with valuable information for use in making decisions.
- Method: EPA will announce each comment period separately. Announcements will appear in local newspapers and EPA fact sheets; they will include particulars on duration, how to make comments, where to submit comments, etc. EPA may solicit comments on the following information/draft documents: draft CIP, preliminary findings on the RI and a list of possible remedies likely to be considered, preliminary findings of the FS and a brief summary of the leading contender for the proposed remedy, and preliminary plans for implementation and construction.
- Timing: Comment periods will be announced as appropriate. A comment period is required in conjunction with the announcement of the Proposed Plan and will last a minimum of 30 days.

Activity 3E: Prepare and issue a Responsiveness Summary.

- Objective: To summarize comments received during comment periods, to document how the EPA has considered those comments during the decisionmaking process, and to provide responses to major comments.
- Method: EPA will prepare a Responsiveness Summary as a section of the Record of Decision. The Responsiveness Summary will include four sections: 1.
 Overview; 2. Background on Community Involvement; 3. Summary of comments received and Agency responses; 4. Remedial Design/Remedial Action concerns. All information, both technical and non-technical, will be conveyed in a manner that is easily understood.
- Timing: EPA will issue the Responsiveness Summary as part of the Record of Decision.

Activity 3F: Revise the Community Involvement Plan (CIP).

- Objective: To identify and address community needs, issues, or concerns regarding the site or the cleanup remedy that are not currently addressed in this CIP.
- Method: The Revised CIP will update the information presented in the previous version of the CIP.
- Timing: EPA will revise the CIP as community concern warrants or at least every three years until the site is closed out.

4.2 Time Frame Summary for Community Involvement Activities

ACTIVITY	· TIME FRAME
Designate an EPA Community Involvement Coordinator (CIC)	January, 2004
Prepare and distribute site fact sheets and technical summaries	Ongoing
Involve students, parents, teachers through area schools	As needed
Provide a toll-free "800 number" for the community to contact EPA	Currently in operation
Maintain a mailing list for the Site	Ongoing
Establish and maintain Information Repositories	Established September 9, 2002
Provide Site and Superfund information on the Internet	Currently available; update as needed
Provide Technical Assistance Grant (TAG) information	Offered February 26, 2002 and May 15, 2003
Establish and maintain the Administrative Record	Update as needed
Conduct special events	As needed
Hold community meetings	As needed, and during public comment period.
Encourage formation of a Community Advisory Group (CAG)	Ongoing
Make informal visits to community	As needed
Solicit comments during a Public Comment Period	As needed and required
Prepare and issue a Responsiveness Summary	Following public comment periods
Revise the Community Involvement Plan (CIP)	As needed

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Appendix A EPA Regional Contacts

Gary Miller
Remedial Project Manager

Tel: (214) 665-8318 Fax: (214) 665-6660

E-mail: miller.garyg@epa.gov

Beverly Negri Technical Assistance Grant Project Officer

Tel: (214) 665-8157 Fax: (214) 665-6660

E-mail: negri.beverly@epa.gov

Phyllis June Hoey Community Involvement Coordinator/SEE

Tel: (214) 665-8522 Fax: (214) 665-6660

E-mail: hoey.phyllis@epa.gov

Dave Bary Press Office

Tel: 214-665-2208

E-mail: bary.dave@epa.gov

Jennifer L. Lyke Regional Representative Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR) 214.665.8362 214.665.2237 FAX jlyke@cdc.gov

Appendix B Local Officials

County Judge John Willy Brazoria County Courthouse 111 E. Locust, Suite 504A Angleton, TX 77515 979.849.5711 ext. 1200

City of Freeport City Hall 200 W. 2nd Street Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.3526 979.233.8867 FAX

Mayor Jim Phillips

Council Members:

Ward A Larry McDonald
Ward B James Saccamanno
Ward C John Smith III
Ward D Norma Garcia
(Site is in Ward D)

Ron Bottoms, City Manager Delia Munoz, City Secretary

(All at the above address)

Wallace Shaw, City Attorney 10 Brazosport Savings Center Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.2411 979.233.4895 FAX Jeff Pynes Chief of Police 430 N. Brazosport Boulevard Freeport, TX 77541 979.239.1211 979.239.3830 FAX jpynes@freeport.tx.us

John Stanford
Chief of Fire Department
131 E. 4th
Freeport, TX 77541
979.233.2111
979.233.4103 FAX

Appendix C State Officials

Texas State Senators

Senator Kyle Janek
Senate District 17
Capitol Office: CAP3E.16
512.463.0117

7777 Southwest Frwy., Suite 102 Houston, TX 77074 713.272.8929

Texas State Representative

Representative Dennis Bonnen House District 25

Capitol Office: EXT E2.602 512.463.0564

122 E. Myrtle Angleton, TX 77515 979.848.1770

<u>Texas Commission on Environmental</u> <u>Quality:</u>

John Flores
Community Relations Coordinator
TCEQ
12100 Park 35 Circle, Building D
Austin TX 78753 or Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 13087 (MC-225)
Austin TX 78711-3087
1.800.633.9363 voice
512.239.5674 voice
512.239.2469 fax
JFlores@tceq.state.tx.us

Luda Voskov, P.G., Project Manager Texas Commission on Environmental Quality MC-221, P.O.Box 13087 Austin TX 78711-3087

lvoskov@tceq.state.tx.us

Larry Champagne, Manager
Ecological Risk Assessment Program
Technical Support Section
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
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Austin, TX 78711-3087
512.239.2158
512.239.2469 FAX
lchampag@tceq.state.tx.us

Texas Department of Health

Susan Prosperie

Exposure Assessment & Surveillance Group

Texas Department of State Health Services

1100 W. 49th Street

Austin, TX 78756

Nancy Ingram
Environmental and Injury Epidemiology
and Toxicology Branch
Mail Code 1964

Texas Department of State Health Services 1100 W. 49th Street Austin, TX 78756 512.458.7269 512.458.7222 FAX 800.588.1248 Nancy.Ingram@dshs.state.tx.us

Andy Tirpak
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
Trustee Assessment and Restoration Program
1502 FM 517E
Dickinson, Texas 77539
281.534.0137
281.534.0122 FAX
Andy.Tirpak@tpwd.state.tx.us

Appendix D Federal Elected Officials

U.S. Senate

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchinson 284 Russell Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510 202.224.5922

Senator John Cornyn 517 Hart Senate Building Washington, DC 20510-4305 202.224-2934 202.228-2856 FAX

U.S. House of Representatives

Congressman Ron Paul Congressional District 14 203 Cannon House Office Building Washington, DC 20515 202.225.2831

312 S. Main, Suite 228 Victoria, TX 77901 Phone Number: (361) 576-1231

Appendix E Environmental and Active Citizens



Mr. Gary Guerrieri gary.guerrieri@cwland.com

Appendix F Potentially Responsible Parties

To be determined.

Appendix G Media Contacts

Television Stations:

Telefutura KFTH TV

Alvin, TX 281.388-0136

KXIN-TV

9440 Kirby Drive Houston, TX 713.662.4545

Community Educational TV Inc.

10902 S. Wilcrest Dr. Houston, TX 281.561.5828

Radio Stations:

KYBJ Radio

Clute, TX 979.265.9191

Newspapers:

Facts

720 S. Main St. Clute, TX 979.265.7411

Angleton Times

700 Western Ave. Angleton, TX 979.849.8581

Houston Chronicle

403 N. Yaupon St. Clute, TX 979.265.7456

Houston Chronicle News Bureau

P. O. Box 1002 Angleton, TX 979.549.9555

Appendix H Meeting Locations

Freeport Community House 1300 W. Second St. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.3306

Velasco Community House 110 Skinner St. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.3306

Appendix I Repository Locations

Local Repository:

Freeport Branch Library

410 Brazosport Blvd. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.3622

Hours open to Public:

Mondays and Wednesdays 10:00am - 6:00pm Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00am - 8:00pm Saturdays 10:00am - 5:00pm Closed Fridays and Sundays

Ms. Margaret Janke, Branch Manager

<u>Texas Commission on Environmental</u> <u>Quality</u>:

TCEQ Records Management

12100 Park 35 Circle First Floor, Building E Austin, TX 78753 Ph. (512) 239-2920 Hours:

Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Open on State holidays)

Appendix J Schools

Brazosport High School 1800 W. 2nd St. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.0151

Freeport Intermediate School 1815 W. 4th St. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.7285

Lanier Middle School 522 N. Avenue B Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.2293 Jane Long Elementary School 1200 W. 11th St. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.1822

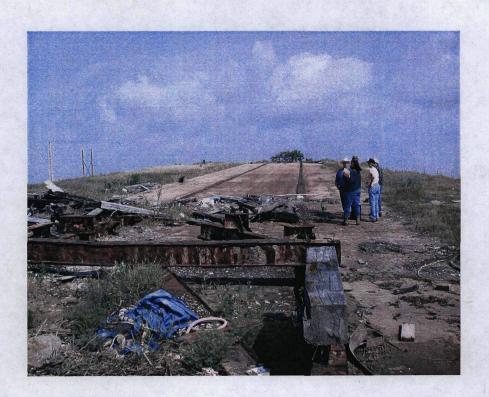
O A Fleming Elementary School 431 W. 4th St. Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.2293

S F Austin Elementary School 7351 Stephen F Austin Rd Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.2751

Velasco Elementary School 500 N. Avenue B Freeport, TX 77541 979.233.2591

Appendix K
Pictures
May 15, 2003





Appendix K
Site Pictures (cont'd)



Fluid Storage Tanks



Appendix K Site Pictures (cont'd)



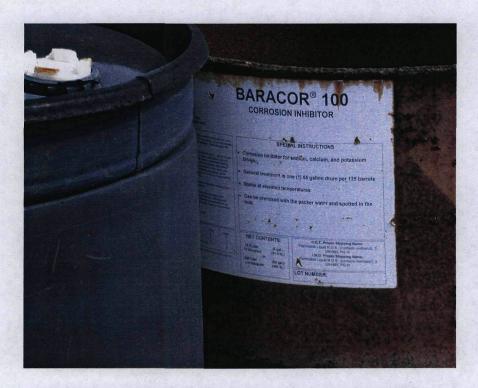


Appendix K Site Pictures (cont'd)





Appendix K Site Pictures (cont'd)





Appendix K Site Pictures (cont'd)





Appendix K Site Pictures (cont'd)



